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PATENT

S/N 09/843,250

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Rebecca Paraless et al. Examiner: Manjunath N. Rao
Serial No.: 09/843,250 Group Art Unit: 1652
Filed: April 26, 2001 Docket: 875.006US2
Title: NOVEL NAPHTHALENE DIOXYGENASE AND METHODS FOR THEIR USE

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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AUG 14 2002

In response to the Restriction Requirement issued June 18, 2002, Applicants elect Group I (claims 1-13 and 30-37). At the Examiner's request, Applicants also elect NDO polypeptides with mutations at positions 352, and SEQ ID NO: 2 as the species.

Claims 1-3, 5, 6, and 8-12 read on SEQ ID NO: 2.

Applicants understand that the subject matter of Group II, claim 38, may be claimed in a divisional application without prejudice and shall enjoy all rights and benefits of 35 U.S.C. § 121.

Applicants respectfully request a favorable examination of the merits of this patent application. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicants' attorney (612-359-3265) to facilitate prosecution of this application. Please charge any additional fees deemed necessary to Deposit Account 19-0743.

Respectfully submitted,

REBECCA PARALES ET AL.

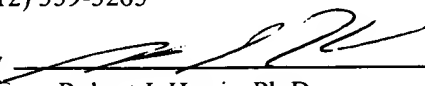
By their Representatives,

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Date

8-5-02

By


Robert J. Harris, Ph.D.
Reg. No. 37,346

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on this 5 day of August, 2002.

Candis B. Buending

Name

Signature

